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Statement submitted by Sulabh International, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/2008/100 (to be issued).

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Statement

Delhi Declaration on Sanitation, 2007

Following a successful World Toilet Summit – 2007 (WTS 2007) it has been noted that there is a need to accelerate the progress on achieving the Millennium Development Goal on Sanitation by 2015. The participants advocate reconfirmation of the pledge that nations took at Johannesburg in 2002.

WTS 2007 adopts the Delhi Declaration on Sanitation – 2007:

1. Increase awareness and political will, priorities sustainable sanitation, the importance of achieving MDG-7 and other goals and also persuade national leaders to take further measures.

2. Move to mobilize Governments, UN Agencies, Financial Institutions, Corporate Bodies, Sanitation Service Providers, Local Bodies and other Stakeholders through strong partnership and collaboration to undertake the required steps to increase sanitation coverage.

3. Undertake data collection, annual review, monitoring and effective actions to scale up sustainable sanitation programmes and strengthen policies at both international and national level.

4. Prepare and plan activities as well as a country specific National Roadmap for The International Year of Sanitation – 2008 in collaboration with all key stakeholders and important partners.

5. Ensure and enhance financial allocation and support through national budgets for achieving sustained progress on sanitation.

6. Develop and strengthen institutional, research and development and human resource at all levels to generate activities and employment in Water and Sanitation sector.

7. Promote knowledge exchange programmes on available sustainable sanitation technologies and behaviours in all regions.

8. Advocate with National Governments to set specific sanitation goals and targets as well as help local communities and educational institutions to gain access to institutional finance.

9. Organise regional and sub-regional conferences and workshops. Declare Sanitation Awards to recognize and support regional initiatives.

10. Implement sustainable sanitation programme through a demand-driven approach and facilitate efficient marketing mechanisms.

11. Prioritise school sanitation, health and hygiene programmes.

12. Implement child-friendly facilities for children which are both accessible and relevant to cultural and regional needs.

13. Address region specific gender concerns by ensuring sanitation facilities for women and the 'girl child'.

14. Facilitate a paradigm shift from disposal-oriented systems to reuse and recycling sanitation systems and ensure quality control.